

Department of State

§ 62.8

State's Exchange Visitor Program Services.

(b) The application shall set forth, in detail, the applicant's proposed exchange program activity and shall demonstrate its prospective ability to comply with Exchange Visitor Program regulations.

(c) The application shall be signed by the chief executive officer of the applicant and must also provide:

(1) Evidence of legal status as a corporation, partnership, or other legal entity (e.g., charter, proof of incorporation, partnership agreement, as applicable) and current certificate of good standing;

(2) Evidence of financial responsibility as set forth at § 62.9(e);

(3) Evidence of accreditation if the applicant is a post-secondary educational institution;

(4) Evidence of licensure, if required by local, state, or federal law, to carry out the activity for which it is being designated;

(5) Certification by the applicant (using the language set forth in appendix A) that it and its responsible officer and alternate responsible officers are citizens of the United States as defined at § 62.2; and

(6) Certification signed by the chief executive officer of the applicant that the responsible officer will be provided sufficient staff and resources to fulfill his/her duties and obligations on behalf of the sponsor.

(d) The Department of State may request any additional information and documentation which it deems necessary to evaluate the application.

§ 62.6 Designation.

(a) Upon a favorable determination that the proposed exchange program meets all statutory and regulatory requirements, the Department of State may, in its sole discretion, designate an entity meeting the eligibility requirements set forth in § 62.3 as an exchange visitor program sponsor.

(b) Designation shall confer upon the sponsor authority to engage in one or more activities specified in § 62.4. A sponsor shall not engage in activities not specifically authorized in its written designation.

(c) Designations are effective for a period of five years. In its discretion, the Department of State may designate programs, including experimental programs, for less than five years.

(d) Designations are not transferable or assignable.

§ 62.7 Redesignation.

(a) Upon expiration of a given designation term, a sponsor may seek redesignation for another five-year term.

(b) To apply for redesignation, a sponsor shall advise the Exchange Visitor Program Services by letter or by so indicating on the annual report.

(c) Request for redesignation shall be evaluated according to the criteria set forth at § 62.6(a) taking into account the sponsor's annual reports and other documents reflecting its record as an exchange visitor program sponsor.

(d) A sponsor seeking redesignation should notify the Department of State, as set forth in (b) of this section, no less than four months prior to the expiration date of its designation. A sponsor seeking redesignation may continue to operate its program(s) until such time as the Department of State notifies it of a decision to amend or terminate its designation.

§ 62.8 General program requirements.

(a) *Size of program.* Sponsors, other than Federal government agencies, shall have no less than five exchange visitors per calendar year. The Department of State may in its discretion and for good cause shown reduce this requirement.

(b) *Minimum duration of program.* Sponsors, other than federal government agencies, shall provide each exchange visitor, except short-term scholars, with a minimum period of participation in the United States of three weeks.

(c) *Reciprocity.* In the conduct of their exchange programs, sponsors shall make a good faith effort to achieve the fullest possible reciprocity in the exchange of persons.

(d) *Cross-cultural activities.* Sponsors shall:

(1) Offer or make available to exchange visitors a variety or appropriate cross-cultural activities. The extent and types of the cross-cultural activities shall be determined by the needs and interests of the particular category of exchange visitor. Sponsors will be responsible to determine the appropriate type and number of cross-cultural programs for their exchange visitors. The Department of State encourages sponsors to give their exchange visitors the broadest exposure to American society, culture and institutions; and

(2) Encourage exchange visitors to voluntarily participate in activities which are for the purpose of sharing the language, culture, or history of their home country with Americans, provided such activities do not delay the completion of the exchange visitors' programs.

§ 62.9 General obligations of sponsors.

(a) *Adherence to Department of State regulations.* Sponsors are required to adhere to all regulations set forth in this part.

(b) *Legal status.* Sponsors shall maintain legal status. A change in a sponsor's legal status (e.g. partnership to corporation) shall require application for designation of the new legal entity.

(c) *Accreditation and licensure.* Sponsors shall remain in compliance with all local, state, federal, and professional requirements necessary to carry out the activity for which they are designated, including accreditation and licensure, if applicable.

(d) *Representations and disclosures.* Sponsors shall:

(1) Provide accurate and complete information, to the extent lawfully permitted, to the Department of State regarding their exchange visitor programs and exchange visitors;

(2) Provide only accurate information to the public when advertising their exchange visitor programs or responding to public inquiries;

(3) Provide informational materials to prospective exchange visitors which clearly explain the activities, costs, conditions, and restrictions of the program;

(4) Not use program numbers on any advertising materials or publications intended for general circulation; and

(5) Not represent that any program is endorsed, sponsored, or supported by the Department of State or the United States Government, except for United States Government sponsors or exchange visitor programs financed directly by the United States Government to promote international educational exchanges. However, sponsors may represent that they are designated by the Department of State as a sponsor of an exchange visitor program.

(e) *Financial responsibility.* (1) Sponsors shall maintain the financial capability to meet at all times their financial obligations and responsibilities attendant to successful sponsorship of their exchange visitor programs.

(2) The Department of State may require non-government sponsors to provide evidence satisfactory to the Department of State that funds necessary to fulfill all obligations and responsibilities attendant to sponsorship of exchange visitors are readily available and in the sponsor's control, including such supplementary or explanatory financial information as the Department of State may deem appropriate such as, for example, audited financial statements.

(3) The Department of State may require any non-government sponsor to secure a payment bond in favor of the Department of State guaranteeing all financial obligations arising from the sponsorship of exchange visitors.

(f) *Staffing and support services.* Sponsors shall ensure:

(1) Adequate staffing and sufficient support services to administer their exchange visitor programs; and

(2) That their employees, officers, agents, and third parties involved in the administration of their exchange visitor programs are adequately qualified, appropriately trained, and comply with the Exchange Visitor Program regulations.

(g) *Appointment of responsible officer.*

(1) The sponsor shall appoint a responsible officer and such alternate responsible officers as may be necessary to perform the duties set forth at § 62.11.